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County Borough



of Blackpool.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICERS

FOR THE YEAR 1933.

E. W. REES-JONES,

M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.,

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

ELSIE B. DICKINSON,

M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.,

ASSISTANT SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE BLACKPOOL
CORPORATION.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The Annual Report upon School Medical work during the year 1933, now submitted for your consideration, reveals a vigorous and expansive effort to control school life, to detect and arrest disease, to enable the child to pass through its school life under the best physical conditions, and to allow it to embark upon its subsequent activities of life unhampered by defects which are in any degree preventable.

A persual of the report, and especially of the statistical tables will indicate the activities of the School Medical Department controlled by you, and a comparison with reports for a series of previous years will indicate a continuous expansion of the work.

In the main, the nature of the work is in conformity with that of previous years but administrative changes effected by you have enabled it to come into closer co-operation with the medical work of the Health Department, and I am confident that this change will be productive of good results.

The Assistant Medical Officers, Dentists, Nurses, and Clerks have all striven hard to make their work effective, and their efforts have been supported by the assistance of the Director of Education and his staff, and by the School teachers.

Medical work amongst school children and pre-school children is often strenuous, often disappointing, but I do not know of any other sphere of social service where whole hearted and efficient work is of more value to the community.

I beg to remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your faithful servant,

E. W. REES-JONES,

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER, AND
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

21st April, 1934.



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STAFF OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER :

E. W. Rees-Jones, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

ASSISTANT SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICERS :

Elsie B. Dickinson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Geo. W. Murray, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Part-time).

SCHOOL DENTISTS :

W. H. Tattersfield, L.D.S.

J. S. Couper, L.D.S.

SCHOOL NURSES :

Louisa Shields

Ethel Jones

PHYSICAL TRAINING ORGANISER :

Hy. J. Huskinson, B.Sc.

OPTICIAN :

H. J. Selby, M.N.A.O.

CLERKS :

Edith M. Davis

Madge Boden

Irene Crossley

DENTAL ATTENDANT :

Rose Gradwell

HON. CONSULTING DENTAL SURGEON :

T. Baxendale Patterson, L.D.S., H.D.D.

REPORT.

Area of Borough (including Foreshore)	7284 acres
Population (corrected by Registrar General to middle of 1933) ..	104100
School Accommodation	10858
Number of Schools (12 Council, 6 Non-provided and 2 Secondary)	20
Number of Elementary School Departments	30
Average Attendance, Elementary Schools	8996
Boys' Grammar School—number on roll	429
Girls' Collegiate School—number on roll	433

I.**THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE IN RELATION TO PUBLIC
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.****CO-ORDINATION WITH THE OTHER HEALTH SERVICES.**

The School Medical Officer is the Medical Officer of Health and co-ordination between the two branches of the Health Services is thus secured. This operates particularly in all matters pertaining to infectious diseases and suspected cases of tuberculosis and venereal diseases. Any special defects in children attaining school age are notified to the Assistant School Medical Officer and special treatment is continued without interruption.

II.**SCHOOL HYGIENE.**

Regular visits of inspection of school buildings are made after routine inspections and the condition of cloakrooms, lavatories, playgrounds, school desks, etc., is studied, as well as the position of desks and blackboards in relation to window lighting.

Suggestions are made to Head Teachers and carried out by them, and structural defects found are reported to the Director of Education.

The condition of the majority of the schools is very satisfactory. The following schools have been re-decorated and re-painted during the past year :—

Interior Decorations :

Claremont Junior Girls'.
Devonshire Road Junior.
Revoe Junior.
St. Kentigern's R.C. Infants'.
School Clinic.

Exterior Decorations :

Boys' Grammar School.
Claremont Junior.
Waterloo Junior.
School Clinic.

III.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The Medical Inspections were carried out during the year in accordance with the Schedule of the Board of Education and the usual three groups were systematically examined. The children were stripped to the waist and examined in a warm room.

These groups comprised :—

“ Entrants ”—or children between the ages of five and six years.

“ Intermediates ”—or children between the ages of eight and nine years.

“ Leavers ”—or children of twelve years and upwards.

The total numbers examined in the schools were as follows :—

Entrants	948
Intermediates	990
Leavers	1084
Re-inspections	1159
Special Cases	338
Contacts of Infectious Disease	1254
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Total	5773
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This total exceeds the number recorded in 1932 by 1428.

IV.

MALNUTRITION.

The state of nutrition of the children as a whole, was found to be good. One hundred and twenty-nine children were classified as being undernourished in varying degrees, only four of them definitely so.

Sixty-eight of the above children suffered from some concomitant disease such as bronchial catarrh, anæmia, cardiac disease, etc. Where the child was found to be underweight or to be possibly losing weight, a new system of supervision has been instituted. A weight card is issued to the parent and the child is weighed weekly and reports at the Clinic if the weight is found to be stationary or decreasing. The case is then further investigated until the reason is found and rectified.

V.

CLEANLINESS.

The total number of children found amongst the scheduled groups with nits in the hair was 91 or 3%. None had verminous bodies.

The School Nurses also examined three times during the year all the children in the schools in regard to the cleanliness of heads and bodies.

The following table gives the numbers inspected and summarises the results, showing the personal cleanliness of the children :—

Inspection.	Examinations.		Percentage with Few Nits.		Percentage with Numerous Nits.	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1st	4647	4461	·4	5·4	—	·85
2nd	4769	4789	·3	5·8	—	1·3
3rd	4877	4722	·5	6·07	—	·72
Total	14284	13972	·4	5·7	—	·97

VI.

CLOTHING AND FOOTGEAR.

With a few exceptions the clothing and footgear was found to be satisfactory. At the routine inspections seven were noted as wearing ragged untidy clothing or bad footgear. Three letters relating to four children in need of help were sent to the Chief Constable, and the usual helpful attention was given to the matter by him.

VII.

MINOR AILMENTS.

The medical clinic is open during the whole of the school year from 2 until 4-30 o'clock on five afternoons of the week, and the dental clinic from 9 a.m. until 4-30 p.m. Both clinics are open on Saturday mornings from 10 o'clock until noon.

During the school holidays they are open from 10 until 12 o'clock on the morning of each week day.

The clinic is fulfilling its function as a centre for the treatment of minor ailments and an administrative centre for dealing with many problems relating to school health. The number of attendances continues to increase and many messages of appreciation have been received from parents. Fourteen thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine attendances were made during the year 1933 comprising 3910 individual children giving an average of 3·8 attendances per child.

Suitable cases are referred for treatment to the following centres :

The Victoria Hospital.

The Tuberculosis Dispensary.

The Orthopædic Clinic, Fleetwood.

The Manchester Eye Hospital.

The Education Committee sanctions any treatment which may be necessary for the school children at these institutions, and defrays the expense for necessitous children for such conditions as come within the scope of treatment approved by the Board of Education. The local hospital admits major cases such as appendicitis, mastoid disease, severe inflammation of the eyes, etc., as ordinary in-patients when they are passed on there for treatment.

The number of defects for which treatment was given or advice tendered, is as follows :—

DEFECTS.		BOYS.		GIRLS.	
FOR ADVICE :—					
Throat and Nose Disease	Enlarged Tonsils	..	34	41	
	Adenoids	.. ..	5	9	
	Tonsils and Adenoids	..	4	18	
Nervous Trouble	Epilepsy and Petit Mal		4	2	
	Chorea	.. ..	17	23	
Circulatory Trouble	Cardiac Debility	..	23	37	
	Anæmia	.. ..	12	5	
Chest Disease	Phthisis Pulmonalis	..	2	—	
	Bronchial Catarrh	..	205	167	
Infectious Disease	Scarlet Fever	.. ..	3	2	
	Measles	.. ..	2	4	
	Whooping Cough	..	16	16	
	Chickenpox	.. ..	19	20	
	Mumps	.. ..	3	3	
Vision	Defective Vision	..	148	183	
	Strabismus	.. ..	9	11	
	Unsuitable Glasses	..	35	43	
	Glasses for Repairs	..	40	36	
Crippling and Deformity	Comprising Rickets, Infantile Paralysis, Talipes of various types, Congenital Dislocation of the hip joint, etc.				
Vermin and Neglect	Verminous Bodies	..	1	1	
	Verminous Heads	..	3	18	
Miscellaneous Cases	Gastric Catarrh and Jaundice	.. ..	5	8	
	Abdominal Pain and Sickness	.. ..	38	48	
	Diarrhœa	.. ..	4	2	
	Threadworms	.. ..	6	12	
	Feverish Colds	.. ..	45	81	

	DEFECTS.	BOYS.	GIRLS.
Miscellaneous Cases—	Influenza	20	22
	Debility	65	98
	Appendicitis	11	6
	Bronchitis . . .	27	30
	Phimosis	3	—
	Bronchoceles	—	1
	Pleurisy	2	1
	Inflamed Throat ..	68	96
	Herniæ	3	2
	Examination in regard to Fitness or Inability to attend School ..	103	124
	Examination re Labour Certificates	176	10
	Examination re Ballet and Pantomime ..	—	79
	Miscellaneous	31	58
FOR TREATMENT :—			
Skin	Tinea Capitis	4	1
	Tinea Corporis	5	5
	impetigo	11	23
	Herpes Zoster (Shingles)	5	3
	Herpes Labialis.. ..	9	8
	Scabies	28	29
	Septic Sores	491	303
	Psoriasis.. ..	3	4
	Alopecia.. ..	3	—
	Scurfy Scalp	5	7
	Verruæ	35	34
Injuries, Sprains and Wounds	Sprains	27	26
	Wounds and Bruises ..	97	80
	Incised Wounds ..	41	10
	Dog Bites and Insect Bites	10	6
	Fractures	7	2
Abscesses, etc.	Abscesses of Face, Neck, Head, etc.	52	31
Burns }	Burns and Scalds ..	13	7
Eyes	Blepharitis) ..	54	49
	Conjunctivitis) ..		
	Corneal Ulcers	5	1
	Hordeolums	27	25

	DEFECTS.			BOYS.	GIRLS.
Ears	Otorrhœa	..	..	59	60
	Earache	..	..	49	61
	Cerumen	..	..	17	10
Miscellaneous Cases	Enlarged Glands of Neck			49	74
	Stomatitis	..	..	4	6
	Chilblains	..	..	3	8
	Dental Abscesses	..		3	7
	Carious Teeth	..	..	15	25
	Tubercular Disease of				
	Joints	..	..	—	1
	Urticaria	.	..	1	6
	Rheumatism	..	..	23	36
	Miscellaneous	..	..	30	49

The children who attended the Clinic, were supplied as follows :—

Sent by Parents	..	..	..	..	..	2896
Sent by Teachers	..	.	..	.	..	232
Sent by Attendance Officers	..	..	.	..		168
Sent by Assistant S.M.O.	..	..	..	..		61
						<hr/> 3910 <hr/>

VIII.

SKIN DISEASE.

Head Teachers are of much assistance in sending children with the slightest sign of skin disease to the school clinic, where early treatment usually results in rapid cure. Therefore, although large numbers of skin troubles are treated at the clinic, very small numbers are found at the routine inspections. The number found was 38.

The following is a complete list of the skin lesions recorded during the year :—

Impetigo	34 cases
Scabies	57
Herpes Zoster	8
Herpes Facialis	17
Psoriasis	7
Septic Sores	794
Urticaria	7
Verrucae	69
Scurfy Scalps	12
Alopecia	3
Lupus Erythematosus	1
Miscellaneous	35

IX.

RING WORM.

During the year, 15 cases of ringworm underwent treatment in the clinic. Of these 5 cases were of the head and 10 of the body, the average period of exclusion being 10 days per case.

X.

VISION.

The testing and fitting of spectacles in school children is an important and very satisfactory part of the work of the School Medical Service. The work is carried out as follows :—

1. The examination of the vision of the children of seven years and over in the scheduled groups and the making of arrangements for further testing of errors of refraction.
2. Examination of special cases and re-inspection of cases of slight visual defect, in the schools.
3. Examination at the Eye Clinic and prescribing of spectacles by the Assistant School Medical Officer.
4. Final fitting and checking of the new spectacles at the Clinic.
5. Regular supervision of all children in the schools who are wearing spectacles.
6. Examination for change of lenses where necessary.

Where a child's vision is found to be deteriorating, special attention is paid to the lighting of the particular classroom, to the blackboard surfaces, and to the position of the child relative to the blackboard. These points are all important in avoiding eye-strain.

As usual, all the children in the Eight-year-old and Leaver Groups, also any in the Entrant Group over seven years of age, were examined in respect of vision. Any entrants suspected of having defective vision and unable to read the letters are tested with pictures. The following was the distribution of the defects as found at the examinations :—

Leavers	Boys	..	..	..	98
	Girls	..	..	..	94
Intermediates	Boys	..	..	..	38
	Girls	..	..	..	55

The total number examined in the above two groups was 2074, and the number of these found with defective vision was 285 including 189 who were already wearing spectacles. The percentage visual defect was therefore 13·74 as compared with 13·9 in 1932.

The number found wearing glasses already but requiring a change of lens was 31.

In the Entrant Group the number found with defective vision was 30. Twenty-four had squint and 18 of these were already wearing glasses. In 2 cases the lenses required changing.

Children suspected by their parents or teachers of having visual defects or unsuitable glasses, were examined as special cases, in the schools or at the clinic, and 232 were found to require new glasses or change of lenses.

The total number found requiring treatment was 373 and of this number 32 received treatment at the expense of their parents and 262 at the expense of the Education Committee.

One boy with marked strabismus and one girl with congenital cataract, underwent operation at the Manchester Eye Hospital.

The Assistant School Medical Officer this year undertook the work of examining for errors of refraction and prescription for spectacles. The following is an analysis of the defects found :—

Hypermetropia	50
Hypermetropia with Strabismus	12
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	67
Hypermetropic Astigmatism with Strabismus ..	26
Myopia	24
Myopia with Astigmatism	37
Myopic Astigmatism with Strabismus	1
Mixed Astigmatism	32
Nystagmus	1
Nystagmus with Associated Hypermetropia	1
Anisotropia	2
Emmetropia	6
Amblyopia (one eye)	3

It is an interesting fact to note that often the biggest number of complaints such as headache, watering of the eyes, conjunctivitis, and blepharitis, are found in the children with only small visual defects. This is because the muscles of the eyes make a tremendous effort to overcome slight defects and in so doing exhaust and overstrain themselves. In the more serious defect no amount of muscular effort is able to overcome it and therefore no attempt is made and no eyestrain results. Consequently, the young child, not realising what normal vision is, makes no complaint. This latter type of case shows the supreme value of routine medical inspection in discovering it.

The Committee's optician, Mr. Selby, M.N.A.O., makes up the spectacles for necessitous children, and sends them to the Clinic where they are examined and checked. He subsequently attends on Saturday mornings for the final fitting of the spectacles on the children's faces, making any adjustments to the frames which may be necessary. This arrangement is highly satisfactory and it is a pleasure to record the helpful co-operation and prompt attention given by Mr. Selby in the preparation and fitting of new spectacles, and also in the repair of old ones.

XI.

EXTERNAL EYE DISEASE.

This group includes inflammatory conditions of the eyes and eyelids. The children attend the clinic daily in most of these cases and are rapidly cured, by douching of the eyes and the use of eyedrops. Severe cases of corneal ulceration are sent to the local hospital for

admission as in-patients. All cases of chronic inflammatory conditions of the eye which do not yield to local treatment are refracted. Although the vision when tested on Snellen's Types may be normal, there is often a slight error of refraction present and the constant muscular effort to overcome this produces irritation, watering of eyes, conjunctivitis or blepharitis.

One hundred and three cases attended the clinic for treatment during the year as follows :—

Conjunctivitis	}	..	..	42
Blepharitis				
Corneal Ulceration		..	..	6
Hordeolum		..	..	52
Keratitis ..		..	..	2
Tinea Tarsi		..	..	1

XII.

TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

Operation was not advised in any case of Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids unless it was certain that the inflammatory condition had been present for a period varying from six months to two years according to the severity of the case. Throat paints, nasal douching and the use of nasal ointments for the reduction of nasal and post-nasal catarrh were used and many cases of throat and nose trouble were on re-inspection found to be greatly improved. In those children who were found after the above treatment still to require operation the surfaces of the throat and nose had thus been rendered less inflamed and less liable to profuse hæmorrhage at the time of operation.

Detailed numbers :—

Total number of cases of enlarged tonsils and/or adenoids found	..	..	..	..	201
Number found requiring further supervision and medical treatment but no operation meantime	..				111
Number found requiring operation after supervision	..				61
Number found improved and taken off list	..	..			29

In addition to the above, 83 children were untreated from the previous year and 89 special cases requiring operation were found in the schools or clinic. At the re-examination 75 children were found to have undergone operations at the expense of the Education Committee and 64 at the expense of their parents, and 6 had undergone other forms of treatment under the supervision of their own medical advisers.

The after-care of all children who have undergone operation for throat and nose trouble receive special attention. Where there is any doubt as to the hygiene of the home these are visited by the School Nurses and cases from such homes are retained in Hospital for an extra day or two. The following written advice about after-care is handed to the parent of each child undergoing operation :—

“ DIRECTIONS FOR THE TREATMENT OF PATIENTS BEFORE
AND AFTER THE REMOVAL OF TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.”

1. The parent or guardian will receive written notice to bring the child to the Hospital on the day before operation.
2. A parent or guardian should accompany the child.
3. The child should be comfortably clothed, and a special wrap or overcoat should be provided for the return journey.
4. On the patient being permitted by the Surgeon or other responsible person, to return home, the journey should be made at once, and the child put to bed and kept there at least 48 hours.
5. The child should be kept indoors for four days after the operation, and not exposed to infectious disease, colds or foul air of any description.
6. Should serious bleeding occur, sips of iced water may be given, and a doctor should be sent for at once. The patient, however, may vomit some blood which has been swallowed, but this need not cause alarm.
7. The patient may attend for examination by the School Medical Officer in a week after the operation. The School Nurse will in the meantime visit the home if the School Medical Officer has been notified of the Child's return home.

XIII.

EAR DISEASE AND HEARING DEFECTS.

Under this heading the following cases were recorded during the year :—

Otorrhœa	119
Deafness with adenoids	5
Deafness with cerumen	27

The otorrhœa cases received daily attention at the Clinic. Children requiring throat and nose operations and those with chronic deafness or any other serious condition connected with the ear are sent to the local hospital for examination by the throat and nose specialist there, and for admission when necessary.

XIV.

DENTAL.**REPORT OF THE SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER.**

The dental work in 1933 has differed from that in previous years in that the teeth of the children in all the age-groups in the elementary schools were inspected. In previous years various age groups were inspected annually in full. Thus, children of ages 5, 7, 9 years, etc. were all inspected, and a certain number of those aged 6, 8, 10 years, etc. Under this Scheme all the children were inspected in about a year and a half. Now, all are inspected in one year. The old scheme had this great advantage that it gave more sessions for work at the chair. The new scheme gives one a better idea of the general state of the teeth. As in other years many children from other towns have been inspected, some with very bad mouths which take a large number of visits to the clinic to put in repair. This holds up other work.

General anæsthesia for the extraction of teeth has been used more extensively than heretofore. In 1932 there were 534 cases, in 1933 1239 cases. In former years a mixture of Nitrous Oxide and Ethyl Chloride was administered by the School Medical Officer. Now a mixture of Nitrous Oxide and Oxygen is given by one dentist, the other undertaking the extractions. The latter method does not give so long a duration of anæsthesia as the Ethyl Chloride mixture, and sometimes when thought necessary, the services of the Assistant School Medical Officer are requested.

In addition to attending to the elementary school children, numerous scholars from the Grammar and Collegiate Schools have been treated. It has not been found possible to inspect these children in the past but any cases that are sent to the clinic are treated. This year, being temporarily disabled from work at the chair, I inspected the Collegiate School, where 363 were inspected and 195 were found to require treatment. Many required only a little treatment and really bad mouths were rare. The Headmistress wishes all her girls to have as good teeth as possible and urges them to have their teeth attended to either at a private dentist or at the clinic if they prefer, or if they cannot afford private treatment.

Mr. T. B. Patterson has on numerous occasions taken X-ray pictures and given advice on several difficult cases, and the assistance thus rendered by him has been highly appreciated.

A table will be found at the end of the book, showing the number of inspections made, and operations performed.

W. H. TATTERSFIELD,

Senior School Dentist.

XV.

ORTHOPÆDICS.

The scheme whereby orthopædic cases are attended to at the Fleetwood Orthopædic Clinic continues to operate satisfactorily.

The number of new cases suffering from crippling conditions and examined at the Fleetwood Clinic since January last was 23. Their classification is as follows :—

					Boys.	Girls.
Infantile Paralysis	..	..	..	..	—	1
Right Spastic Hemiplegia		.	..	..	—	2
Spastic Paraplegia	..	..	..	..	—	3
Spastic Quadraplegia	..	..	..	..	1	—
Pseudo-Hypertrophic Muscular Paralysis				..	1	—
Perthes Disease	..	..	..	..	1	1
Old T.B. Spine	..	..	..	..	1	—
Shortening of leg	..	..	..	..	—	1
Winging of left scapula	..	..	..	..	—	1
Bilateral Flat Foot	..	..	..	..	2	3
Severe Dorsal Scoliosis	..	..	..	..	1	—
Bilateral Hammer Toe	..	..	..	..	—	1
Swelling of tarso metatarsal joints		..	..	..	—	1
Webbed ring and middle fingers, left hand				..	1	—
Erb-Duchenne Paralysis		..	..	..	—	1
					8	15

Six children have been admitted to the Heswall and Myrtle Street Hospitals, Liverpool, for treatment, during the year.

There are now 63 Blackpool children under treatment at the Fleetwood Orthopædic Clinic. Three hundred and seventy-seven attendances were made there by them during the year.

The combination of operative treatment where necessary with massage, sunlight, cod liver oil and malt, and general health supervision works many wonderful cures. The application of these methods during the pre-school years ought rapidly to lead to a reduction in the numbers requiring orthopædic treatment during school life.

XVI.

HEART DISEASE.

In the scheduled examinations the following numbers were found :—

3 children suffering from organic heart disease.

116 children suffering from functional heart disease.

At the conclusion of routine inspections lists of these cases are given to Head Teachers together with details as to fitness for physical training and games.

Four children having chronic heart disease were excluded from school for lengthened periods.

XVII.

RHEUMATISM.

A close watch is kept on all cases showing signs of early rheumatism, as rheumatism in its later stages may produce serious cardiac complications. Arrangements are made for all cases of rheumatic pains in joints or muscles, the so-called "growing pains," and also all children with rheumatic tonsillitis to be placed under supervision either by the child's own practitioner or at the Clinic.

Good food, proper housing, cleanliness and comfort in the home, and general tonics all play their part in the prevention and cure of rheumatism. Where the nervous system is involved, causing chorea, rest is essential. Where the valves of the heart have been attacked—producing rheumatic endocarditis, prolonged periods of rest are needed, causing long absences from school.

At the routine inspections 6 cases of slight rheumatism, and 2 cases of chorea were noted and put under supervision. At the Clinic 53 cases of rheumatism were seen and 28 cases of chorea. The following are some details of the cases :—

Slight Rheumatism (muscular, osseous, joint) ..	48	cases
Rheumatism with Cardiac impairment ..	11	„
Chorea	14	„
Chorea with Cardiac impairment	8	„
Incipient Chorea	8	„

XVIII.

TUBERCULAR DISEASE.

All cases of tubercular disease in any form are notified to the Medical Officer of Health.

Many cases of debility and the so-called pre-tubercular states are sent for special examination such as X-ray of lungs or examination of sputum, to the Tuberculosis Clinic so that all cases are diagnosed at the earliest possible moment.

The following is a summary of cases of Tuberculosis existing in children of school age, during the past year :—

					Boys.	Girls.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	.	..	..	..	4	3
Glandular	..	..	..	..	8	5
Tuberculosis of Bone	..	..	..	..	4	5
Abdominal Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	6	5
Total	..	..	..	..	22	18

From particulars supplied by the Tuberculosis Officer the progress made by these patients and their present conditions are indicated below.

Of the 7 pulmonary cases :—

In 3 the disease is arrested, 3 are improved and 1 is stationary.

Of the 13 glandular cases :—

In 2 the disease is arrested, 8 are improved, and 3 are stationary.

Of the 9 cases of tuberculosis of bone :—

In 1 the disease is arrested, 4 are improved, 1 is stationary, and in 1 case of generalised surgical tuberculosis the condition is deteriorating, 2 cases are under treatment in a sanatorium.

Of the 11 cases of abdominal tuberculosis :—

In 4 the disease is arrested, 6 are improved and 1 is in a sanatorium.

XIX.

FOLLOWING-UP.

Children found to be suffering from physical defects at the routine inspections in the schools are listed on special cards and if the parents are present they are advised what to do. If the parents are not present the School Nurses subsequently visit the homes where necessary to advise the parents, making notes of the parents' reply on the re-inspection cards.

These children and any referred for treatment in previous years who are still in attendance and whose parents have neglected to take advantage of the advice given are at intervals re-inspected in the schools by the Assistant School Medical Officer. By these means it is ascertained whether the treatment recommended has received attention and whether the defect noted is cured or improved. The number of re-inspections carried out in the schools was 1,159 and at the Clinic 436, making a total of 1,595.

XX.

WORK OF THE SCHOOL NURSES.

The School Nurses carry out the following duties :—

1. Assist at the examinations in the schools.
2. Attend the medical clinic every afternoon for the treatment of minor ailments and surgical dressings.
3. Visit the homes for following-up cases and in certain special cases for administrative purposes such as the completion of forms for admission to orthopædic homes, etc.
4. Make class surveys of all children who should be wearing spectacles.
5. Inspect all scholars three times annually in regard to personal cleanliness of heads and bodies.
6. Examine contacts of infectious diseases, in conjunction with the Health Department.
7. Keep cards and statistical records of the work done, for the Annual and Monthly Reports.

The total number of visits made by the School Nurses was as follows :—

To the Schools	..	..	..	300
To the Homes	..	..	..	533

XXI.

AGENCIES AVAILABLE FOR TREATMENT.

1. The School Clinic. The treatment of minor ailments, the examination of necessitous cases of defective vision and all the dental work are carried out at the School Clinic.
2. The Local Hospital attends to emergency cases such as appendicitis and fractures, and carries out operative treatment for such conditions as hernia, appendicitis, phimosis and enlarged tonsils and adenoids. A fee of two pounds per case is paid by the Local Authority for the throat and nose operations.
3. Children suffering from tubercular disease or suspected to be in a "pre-tubercular state" are sent to the Tuberculosis Clinic for further investigation and treatment where necessary.
4. The Public Health Clinics at the Victoria Hospital are available for investigation of cases suspected of congenital syphilitic disease or gonorrhœal infections, and for treatment when the diagnosis is confirmed.
5. Mr. McFarland, F.R.C.S.E., attends the Fleetwood Orthopædic Clinic for the examination of children presented to him as suffering from deformities. The Myrtle Street Hospital and the Heswall Hospital are available for the reception of cases which require operative treatment and the management obtain a weekly fee for each patient.
6. Mr. Selby, M.N.A.O., as Optician appointed by the Committee, makes and fits the spectacles for the necessitous children on receipt of their prescriptions.
7. The Manchester Royal Ophthalmic Hospital attends to eye cases requiring operative treatment, e.g., congenital cataract, severe strabismus, etc. The Committee give an annual donation to the Hospital.
- 8.—The Foxton Dispensary supplies malt and cod liver oil to the poorer children recommended by the Assistant School Medical Officer. The local authority gives an annual donation of £30 to the Dispensary for this purpose.
9. The Chief Constable provides clothing and footgear for some of the poorer children and is very helpful in this way when children are found to be inadequately clothed or shod.
10. The Ladies' Sick Poor Association continue their helpful distribution of milk and eggs when asked to do so, to children who are sick and in poor circumstances.

XXII.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of cases which occurred amongst elementary school children was as follows :—

Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	18
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	145
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	668
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	238
Chickenpox	..	..	..	..	..	456

In cases of diphtheria and scarlet fever in school children the Medical Officer of Health made arrangements for the examination of all contacts in the schools and disinfection of the classrooms. Large numbers of classes were also examined with regard to possible missed cases of chicken-pox and measles.

XXIII.

OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.

There are no open-air schools in this Borough. Open-air classes, however, are recognised as part of the general scheme of teaching and are held in the playground during the summer season when weather permits.

There are 5 schools within the Borough built with open-air classrooms.

XXIV.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

The physical training of the elementary school children is carried out by the Teachers and supervised by the Organiser, who systematically visits the schools for the purpose of giving advice in regard to exercises, games and drill. Lists of the names of pupils who suffer from physical defects such as round shoulders, lateral curvature of the spine, flat-foot, etc., are sent to the Organiser of Physical Training at the conclusion of routine inspections, for his attention.

He also receives lists of children who are mouth breathers without obstruction or who have undergone operation for enlarged tonsils and adenoids but have not yet re-established nose breathing.

The following is a list of these cases reported to the Organiser :—

29 narrow and flat chests, pigeon breasts, lateral curvatures and round shoulders.

8 flat-foot.

7 mouth-breathers.

75 cases of cardiac defects were reported as requiring special supervision during physical training.

XXV.

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.

The number of parents attending the routine examinations was as follows :—

With the Entrants	..	..	810 or 85·4%
„ „ Intermediates	..	..	720 or 72·7%
„ „ Leavers	..	..	555 or 51·19%

As the number of parents who attend with Leavers has in the past been found to be small a determined effort was made to encourage an increase. On the notice of medical inspection issued to the parents of Leavers the following words were added : “ and you as parent are desired to attend at the time named, as this is the last occasion on which the child will be medically examined before leaving school.” This resulted in an increase from 35·3% last year to 51·19% this year of parents present at the examination of the Leaver Group.

XXVI.

CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS AND ATTENDANCE OFFICERS.

Head Teachers and Class Teachers have been most helpful and sympathetic towards the work of the School Medical Service, throughout the year. If there are any outstanding cases Head Teachers refer the matter to the Assistant School Medical Officer. They also see that children attend the Clinic when cards are issued.

During the routine inspections they hold themselves in readiness to give any information required and to discuss cases where necessary. Co-operation exists in the fullest sense of the word between the teaching profession in the Borough and the School Medical Staff.

The Superintendent Attendance Officer and his colleagues are also very helpful by their investigations and following-up of different cases and of children who attend irregularly for treatment at the Clinic. They also effectively keep in touch with all orthopædic cases and they send up to the Clinic for medical examination all children coming to live in the Borough who are believed to be unfit for school.

XXVII.

CO-OPERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES.

The Chief Constable kindly helps in the problem of clothing and footgear by responding to all requests for assistance made by the Assistant School Medical Officer.

The following list of clothing, footgear and goods distributed to the poorer children and their parents during the year 1933 was kindly sent by the Chief Constable :—

The number of children clothed during the year was 1,233.

The boys received boots, stockings, suits, overcoats, shirts, and jerseys ; the girls received boots, stockings, dresses, coats, and underwear.

One hundred and fifty new garments, girls' coats, were sent to four schools for alteration and distribution by the Head Teachers, to necessitous cases.

Coal to the amount of 51 tons 2 cwts. was delivered to poor families.

Foodstuffs were issued to 1,232 families, representing 4,351 children.

Grocery tickets to the value of 5s. 0d. each, were issued to 135 persons.

The Ladies' Sick Poor Association helps greatly by supplying milk and eggs to ailing children, and the Medical Staff is greatly indebted for this.

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children continues to give splendid assistance. The District Officer calls upon any cases of neglect reported to him from the Clinic or from the schools. He carries out these efforts tactfully and energetically and usually with excellent results. The following is a list of the cases notified to him during the year :—

The parents of 4 children from 3 families were visited for neglect in regard to cleanliness. These children were promptly cleansed.

The parents of one child with defective vision unattended to, were visited and this resulted in permission being given for spectacles to be provided by the local authority.

XXVIII.

BLIND CHILDREN.

Five children come under this heading. All five are in institutions

XXIX.

DEAF CHILDREN.

Five children come under this heading. All five are at certified schools for the deaf.

XXX.

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

With the help and co-operation of Head Teachers, all children suspected of being backward or feeble-minded have been specially tested and given a quotient. The Ballard Educational Tests have been largely used, supplemented where necessary by the Binet-Simon Tests for Intelligence.

The following is a classification of children coming under the above heading :—

						Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Idiots	..	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Imbeciles	..	..	..	..	..	7	5	12
Feeble-minded	..	..	..	..	..	30	18	48
Dull	..	..	..	..	..	97	57	154
Epileptics		..	..	..	..	4	3	7

With the exception of the idiots, imbeciles, and 4 of the epileptics, all of the above are in attendance at elementary schools.

There are several backward classes within the Borough and most of the feeble-minded children, some of the dull children and a few who have had long absences due to illness are in these classes. The teachers of these classes have had special training for the work.

XXXI.

MEDICAL INSPECTION AT THE GIRLS' COLLEGIATE SCHOOL, 1933.

A new method of carrying out the medical inspections has been introduced this year. Instead of holding an annual inspection in the autumn, as in past years, the following arrangement is now in force. The School is visited on three or four consecutive days once a term. During these visits all the entrants for the term receive a thorough examination, and, as only one girl at a time is present before the Medical Officer, an opportunity is given to discuss any personal health problems.

When the routine examinations of the entrants are finished, rapid re-inspections of the other pupils are carried out, special attention being paid to any defects found at previous examinations or to any special cases brought forward by the Headmistress and Staff.

It is believed that this new method makes for greater continuity in the work. It gives the Headmistress of the school a better chance of knowing the medical history of the new pupils and brings the Staff into closer and more continuous co-operation with the School Health Service.

The names of those who suffer from any form of physical defect are submitted to the Headmistress ; she advises the parents in regard to the means for obtaining suitable treatment, and should there be amongst her pupils any who are necessitous and require attention

respecting eyes, teeth, throat and nose, skin disease, or any physical defect, the Assistant School Medical Officer arranges for their treatment to be undertaken at the Clinic, or in the Hospital; the Headmistress clears up any difficulties her pupils may have upon the score of medical treatment or medical inspection.

During the past year, 274 pupils were examined in the Girls' Collegiate School. Of that number 105 were new pupils who received a routine examination and 169 were re-examined.

The following is a classification of the findings :—

EYES :

Defective Vision 97 or 35·4%

Details of Defective Vision :—

Found wearing suitable glasses	72
Found wearing unsuitable glasses	13
Found requiring glasses	12
Showing a very slight visual defect and therefore noted for supervision	10
Blepharitis or inflammation of the eyelids	2

CARDIAC CONDITIONS :

Systolic murmur	} Haemic	15
Systolic roughening		2
Rapid beat (hyperexcitable)		11

MISCELLANEOUS CONDITIONS :

Anæmia	10
Bronchial Catarrh	7
Moderate nutrition	2
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids (for supervision)	11
Nasal Catarrh	1
Highly strung	2
Subject to fits	1

SKIN CONDITIONS :

Slight Dermatitis	2
Acne	2
Boils	1
Few nits in hair	1

FOR SPECIAL EXERCISES :

Kyphosis	4
Scoliosis	1
Requiring special breathing exercises	5
Requiring heel-raising exercises	1

**MEDICAL INSPECTION AT THE BOYS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL,
1933.**

It will be noted that during the year the whole of the boys have not been examined. In previous years all the pupils were examined during the months of September and October, and little further in the way of School visits done throughout the remainder of the period. During the past year one forenoon session per fortnight with additional sessions as required have been held at the School. The result is naturally that all re-examinations have not been made since September but will continue to be made throughout the coming year, and the report of 1934 will show a complete examination of all boys, with, in addition, close following-up of all cases requiring supervision.

During the year 1933 a total of 185 boys were examined, comprising 81 new cases, 77 re-examinations, and 27 special cases brought forward by their Form Masters because of some defect.

The general physique and health of the boys is very good and except in a very few, any defects found are of a minor nature.

The chief defect found was that of vision, and of the number examined 30 showed definite defect in visual acuity. Of these, however, 24 were wearing adequate correcting lenses, 3 were wearing glasses requiring a change, and only three had to be recommended for correction for the first time. The parents in these cases were notified accordingly.

With regard to dental defects, the number of boys found requiring dental treatment was surprisingly small. About 30% of those examined had sound dentures, while about 50% had had bad teeth satisfactorily treated. Of the remainder, 16 boys had moderate dental caries requiring treatment, and only 6 had really bad teeth necessitating immediate attention. This improvement in the condition of the teeth is probably due first, to a greater interest on the part of both parent and pupil in the care of the teeth, and second, to the satisfactory work being done by the school dental service in elementary schools.

Further defects found are shewn in the following table. It is to be noted that the number of defects shewn do not indicate a like number of pupils, as one boy may show several of these minor defects :—

COMPLAINT.	NUMBER.
Anæmia (slight)	11
Anæmia (fairly severe)	1
Bronchial Catarrh	4
Deafness and Otorrhœa	3
D.A.H.	7
External Eye Diseases	3
Flat Chest	11
Flat Feet	4
Glandular Swelling	16
Hernia	3
Skin diseases	3
Stammer	4
Tonsil	12
V.D.H.	3
Unclassified	6

In the main these defects noted were of a minor nature and require no treatment. In a certain number, games were vetoed and in others modified games and suitable exercise were recommended. Only in a very few cases was it necessary to draw the parents' attention to defects.

At subsequent visits to the School, boys in whom defects have been previously noted are followed up with a view to determining whether any steps have been taken to remedy the trouble. If not, more urgent representation is made to the parents, and in one or two cases of visual or dental defects where the parents were in necessitous circumstances, arrangements were made for the boy to be treated at the School Clinic.

GEO. W. MURRAY.

XXXII.

PARENTS' PAYMENTS.

The approved scheme whereby certain donations should be received from parents in connection with the treatment of their children's physical defects in the Clinics, is still in force, and the following amounts were received during the year :—

					£	s.	d.
For Medical Clinics	..	..	..	..	47	1	5
For Dental Clinics	..	..	..	..	30	4	10
For Dental Extraction, under General Anæsthesia					25	0	0
Total					£102	6	3

XXXIII.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

In association with the Dental Board leaflets dealing with the care of the teeth are sent to the schools for distribution to "leavers."

Teachers give health talks in the schools regularly, using the Handbook of suggestions in Health Education issued by the Board of Education as their guide.

In October, 1933, over 100 elementary school teachers from the Blackpool schools attended the week-end Physical Training Conference at St. Annes-on-Sea, organised by the Northern and North-Western Counties' Physical Training Association.

The Physical Training Organiser runs weekly practical courses on Physical Training for the teachers in the Borough.

XXXIV.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS.

During the year 186 children comprising 176 boys and 10 girls were granted licences to work out of school hours under the Bye-Laws. These children are put under careful supervision if there is any reason to fear that health or education may suffer from the employment. Many are asked to report at the Clinic regularly for examination and Head Teachers co-operate in seeing that no symptoms of overstrain are allowed to continue.

XXXV.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN IN ENTERTAINMENTS.

Eighty-five examinations were made under this heading and 84 medical certificates were issued for the Tower Ballet, the North Pier, and Pantomime. One girl was refused a medical certificate on account of her heart condition and poor health record at school.

TABLE I.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups—

Entrants	948
Second Age Group	990
Third Age Group	1084
Total	3022

Number of other Routine Inspections	--
---	----

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	4091
Number of Re-Inspections	1595
Total	5686

TABLE II.

A. RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1933.

DEFECT OR DISEASE.				Routine Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
				No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
				Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under ob- servation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under ob- servation, but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment
(1)				(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin	Malnutrition	..		129	—	7	—
	Ringworm						
	Scalp	..	..	—	—	5	—
	Body	..	..	—	—	10	—
	Scabies	..	..	3	—	54	—
	Impetigo	..	..	3	—	31	—
	Other Diseases						
Eye	{Non-Tuberculous)			32	—	906	—
	Blepharitis		..				
	Conjunctivitis		..	42	—	61	—
	Keratitis	..	..	—	—	2	—
	Corneal Opacities	..		—	—	6	—
	Defective Vision						
	(excluding Squint)			123	38	194	—
Ear	Squint	..	..	18	—	38	—
	Other Conditions	..		7	—	49	—
	Defective Hearing	..		9	—	18	—
	Otitis Media	..		11	—	108	—
	Other Ear Diseases			8	—	102	—
Nose and Throat	Chronic Tonsillitis						
	only	..	..	44	85	69	20
	Adenoids only	..		6	9	36	8
	Chronic Tonsillitis						
	and Adenoids	..		11	17	67	4
	Other Conditions	..		—	—	24	—

TABLE II.—Continued.

DEFECT OR DISEASE.		Routine Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
		No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
		Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous)		26	—	135	—
Defective Speech		5	—	1	—
Heart and Circulation	Heart Disease :				
	Organic	3	—	4	—
	Functional	116	—	56	—
	Anæmia	161	—	20	—
	Bronchitis	17	—	57	—
Lungs	Other Non-Tuber- culous Diseases	256	—	287	—
	Pulmonary :				
	Definite	—	—	7	—
	Suspected	2	—	—	—
Tuber- Culosis	Non-Pulmonary :				
	Glands	—	—	13	—
	Bones and Joints	—	—	9	—
	Skin	—	—	—	—
	Other Forms	—	—	11	—
Nervous System	Epilepsy	—	—	7	—
	Chorea	2	—	28	—
	Other Conditions	28	—	12	—
Deformi- ties	Rickets	1	—	—	—
	Spinal Curvature	—	—	4	—
	Other Forms	—	—	59	—
Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases)		97	—	1278	—

TABLE II.—Continued.

B. NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN FOUND AT ROUTINE MEDICAL
INSPECTION TO REQUIRE TREATMENT (EXCLUDING
UNCLEANLINESS AND DENTAL DISEASES).

GROUP.	NUMBER OF CHILDREN.		Percentage of Children found to require Treatment.
	Inspected.	Found to require Treatment.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
PRESCRIBED GROUPS :—			
Entrants	948	228	24
Second Age Group ..	990	215	21·71
Third Age Group ..	1084	232	21·4
Total (Prescribed Groups) ..	3022	675	22·33
Other Routine Inspections ..	—	—	—

TABLE III.

RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA.

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS.

Nil.

BLIND CHILDREN

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
3	—	2	—	5

PARTIALLY BLIND CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Certified Schools for the Part- ially Blind.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Insti- tutions.	At no School or In- stitution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	—	—

DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
5	—	—	—	5

TABLE III.—Continued.

PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Certified Schools for the Parti- ally Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or In- stitution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	—	—

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	48	—	—	48

EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM SEVERE EPILEPSY.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
2	—	—	4	6

TABLE III.—Continued.

PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

A. TUBERCULOUS CHILDREN.

I.—CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	5	—	2	7

II.—CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	27	3	3	33

B. DELICATE CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	7	7

TABLE III.—Continued.

C. CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	13	2	13	28

D. CHILDREN WITH HEART DISEASE.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	2	2

TABLE IV.

RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING THE YEAR
ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1933.

TREATMENT TABLE.

GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness, for
which see Group VI.).

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
SKIN—			
Ringworm-Scalp.. ..	5	—	5
Ringworm-Body.. ..	10	—	10
Scabies	57	—	57
Impetigo	34	—	34
Other skin disease ..	937	1	938
MINOR EYE DEFECTS ..	212	5	217
(External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)			
MINOR EAR DEFECTS ..	249	7	256
MISCELLANEOUS	351	69	420
(e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)			
Total	1855	82	1937

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.)

TABLE IV.—Continued.

Defect or Disease. (1)	No. of Defects dealt with.			No. of children for whom spectacles were		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	By Private Practitioner or at Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. (3)	Otherwise. (4)	Total. (5)	Prescribed (1)	Obtained (2)
					(i.) Under the Authority's Scheme.	(i.) Under the Authority's Scheme. (ii.) Otherwise.
Errors of Refraction (including squint) ..	262	18	14	294	246	32
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ..	1	—	—	1		
Total ..	263	18	14	295		

GROUP V.—DENTAL DEFECTS.

TABLE IV.—Continued.

(1) Number of Children who were :—

(i.) Inspected by the Dentist :

Aged :

Routine Age Groups	5	..	976	}	Total, 10793
	6	..	1061		
	7	..	1185		
	8	..	1149		
	9	..	1198		
	10	..	1193		
	11	..	1325		
	12	..	1177		
	13	..	1204		
	14	..	277		
	15	..	48		

Specials 130

Grand Total 10923

(ii.) Found to require treatment 7773

(iii.) Actually treated 5230

(2) Half-days devoted to :—

Inspection	65	}	Total	739
Treatment	674					

(3) Attendances made by children for treatment 10493

(4) Fillings :—

Permanent teeth	2835	}	Total	3076
Temporary teeth	241					

(5) Extractions :—

Permanent teeth	953	}	Total	6816
Temporary teeth	5863					

TABLE IV.—Continued.

(6)	Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions	..	1239
(7)	Other operations :—		
	Permanent teeth	.. .. 2200	} Total .. . 2463
	Temporary teeth	.. .. 263	

GROUP VI.—UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS
CONDITIONS.

(i.)	Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	.. .. .	4
(ii.)	Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	.. .. .	31478
(iii.)	Number of individual children found unclean (see note i.)		711
(iv.)	Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority	.. .. .	—
(v.)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—		
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	.. .. .	—
	(b) Under School Attendance Bye-Laws	.. .. .	—

County Borough of Blackpool.

.....
Education Committee.
.....

REPORT

OF THE

ORGANISER

OF

PHYSICAL TRAINING

Mr. H. J. Huskinson, B.Sc.



For the Year ended December 31st, 1933

A. E. IKIN, B.Sc., LL.D.,
Director of Education.

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Education Offices,
Blackpool,
January, 1934.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

**ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1933 OF THE ORGANISER OF
PHYSICAL TRAINING.**

(A) GENERAL REVIEW.

The year 1933 has been marked by very considerable progress in many branches of Physical Education. In certain directions, existing schemes of physical exercise have been strengthened and enlarged ; in others, new and improved schemes have been introduced. The training of teachers by means of refresher classes goes from strength to strength. The season's swimming has yielded extraordinarily gratifying results. Marked improvements have also been evident on the athletic side.

It will perhaps be of interest to review the major factors in the improvements which have taken place during the past twelve years. Then, there was only one Syllabus of Physical Training which was applicable to both boys and girls alike of all school ages. Now, there is a new and revised syllabus for children up to the age of twelve; after that age the work of boys and girls proceeds on different lines and a separate syllabus is provided for each. *The greatest change in our Physical Training which the past few years have to offer is, therefore, the differentiation of work into lines suitable for the needs of the two sexes and for the demands of the different ages.*

The second most important change lies in the incomparably greater knowledge of Physical Training and the higher teaching ability possessed by the teachers of to-day. This is without doubt due in the main to their attendance at local and vacation refresher courses. The number of these local courses held during the past twelve years does not fall far short of fifty. Some of these courses have comprised 14 lessons, others 10 lessons, and none less than 7. *The most outstanding feature of all these classes has been the anxiety of the teachers to provide the best work under the most modern methods for the benefit of the children.*

The provision of local schemes of work in the various branches of Physical Education has been made in Memorandum No. XI. "Schemes of Physical Education" (July, 1928). This publication has had the effect of focussing individual rays of effort into a common beam of concerted action which has definitely been for the good of the work as a whole

All Central and Senior Schools now have portable gymnastic apparatus and we are thus able to provide the children with more interesting and much more effective work. Twelve years ago gymnastic apparatus was unknown in our schools. As to small apparatus, such as games materials, all types of schools are now adequately provided ; in 1922 one of H.M. Inspectors commented on the fact that in none of the schools visited were even "team colours" worn by the children !

In swimming, the methods employed twelve years ago were haphazard. Our classes at the baths are now taught on modern class lines by their teachers who themselves have been trained in these methods at teachers' classes. In the early days we taught some 250 children to swim each year ; now the number exceeds 1,000 for one season's work.

Twelve years ago no individual school held its own school sports nor its school gala. This year, all the Central and Senior Schools held both sports and galas ; several junior schools had their own sports and one even conducted a gala.

These are some of the important changes which have evolved during recent years ; the minor improvements are legion.

(B) THE BOARD OF EDUCATION'S NEW SYLLABUS OF PHYSICAL TRAINING, 1933.

Probably the most momentous event in the Physical Training history of the past year has been the issue by the Board of Education of a new Syllabus of Physical Training. This syllabus aims at providing a systematic scheme of physical exercises for children from five to twelve years of age. It finds its fullest use, therefore, in the curriculum of the Infant and Junior Schools, although many of the exercises and activities embraced in this scheme are very suitable for inclusion in the Senior School lesson.

Conceived and drawn up by the soundest and most expert minds in the Physical Training world, the 1933 Syllabus is indeed a wonderful work. It is incomparably greater than its predecessor, the 1919 Syllabus. Amongst the most important improvements of the new work are :—

- (1) A much more active type of "table" is set forth.
- (2) A wider range of exercises and activities is given.
- (3) Many alternatives for varying conditions are suggested.
- (4) The introduction of rhythm into many exercises is effected.
- (5) A comprehensive scheme of games' coaching is included.

The effect of the issue of this Syllabus on the Physical Training of our Schools in the future must indeed be profound.

(C) THE FURTHER TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

Refresher Courses for the further training of teachers are probably the most important local factors for the success of any scheme of Physical Education. They form the basis of all local progress. The aims of such courses are to provide for the teachers a good working knowledge of the Board's Syllabuses, to impart real understanding of the aims and objects of Physical Training, and, lastly, to afford personal practice of the various exercises and activities.

During the early part of the year the two Courses for teachers of Physical Training in Junior Schools held at the Claremont Junior Girls' School and at the Waterloo Junior Girls' School, came to a successful issue.

In addition, the record number of *five* Courses of teachers' classes were organised and conducted during the year. The details are as follows:—

1. A COURSE OF 10 LESSONS OF ONE HOUR EACH IN THE TEACHING OF SWIMMING FOR WOMEN TEACHERS was held from April to July.

The response, enthusiasm and attendance of the teachers was excellent. The number on the register was about 60.

2. A COURSE OF 10 LESSONS OF ONE HOUR EACH IN THE TEACHING OF SWIMMING FOR MEN TEACHERS was also conducted during the same period and was as enthusiastically attended.
3. A COURSE OF 10 LESSONS OF ONE AND A HALF HOURS EACH FOR THE TEACHERS OF INFANT SCHOOLS commenced in October. This was the first course which has been definitely arranged for infant school teachers. It was designed to introduce the new infant school work as outlined in the Board's 1933 Syllabus. Splendid response was shewn by these teachers and the average attendance at each class was about 60. All the head teachers of the various infant schools attended this Course and some took an active part in the work together with the assistant teachers.
4. A COURSE OF 14 LESSONS OF ONE AND A HALF HOURS EACH FOR WOMEN TEACHERS IN SENIOR GIRLS' SCHOOLS commenced in October and is still proceeding.
5. A COURSE OF 14 LESSONS OF ONE AND A HALF HOURS EACH FOR MEN TEACHERS IN SENIOR BOYS' SCHOOLS also commenced in October and is now almost completed.

The Course for Senior Women Teachers was conducted by Miss Glen, Physical Training Mistress to the Girls' Collegiate School. The other four courses were taken by the Organiser of Physical Training.

Supplementing these official courses, small informal coaching classes in swimming have been held from time to time throughout the year. The object of these classes has been to coach teachers who wished to prepare for the various examinations in swimming and life-saving, and so to improve their qualifications in these subjects. During the year, the following results have been obtained :—

NAME	AWARD	EXAMINING BODY
Miss Kelsall	Elementary Certificate	Royal Life-Saving Society.
Miss Barker	Elementary Certificate	do.
Miss Hamilton	Intermediate Certificate	do.
Miss Hyde	Intermediate Certificate and Bronze Medallion	do.
Miss Gatley	Advanced Teacher's Certificate	Amateur Swimming Association
Mr. Ford	First Class Instructor's Certificate	Royal Life-Saving Society

Mr. Ford has also been awarded the Hon. Associateship of the Royal Life-Saving Society. This award is of high standing and is only granted to those life-saving teachers who have successfully trained at least twenty pupils for the Bronze Medallion and who have, moreover, furthered the cause of life-saving locally.

The Organiser of Physical Training who is also the Hon. Representative of the Royal Life-Saving Society for Blackpool has recently taken the examination for the Diploma of that Society, the highest award in the swimming world. Word is just to hand that he has been successful.

(D) PHYSICAL EXERCISES AND GYMNASTICS IN THE VARIOUS TYPES OF BLACKPOOL SCHOOLS.

(1) CENTRAL AND SENIOR SCHOOLS.

The work in these schools has been stabilised and consolidated throughout the year. No upheavals have been made in schemes of work, although the advent of the 1933 Syllabus has provided some fresh and interesting exercises and activities to support the materials of the Reference Book of Gymnastics for Boys and the Supplement of Physical Training for Older Girls.

The men teachers have now had three separate courses of instruction in senior boys' work, the women teachers, two. Hence they have acquired a sound knowledge of this type of gymnastics. Most satisfactory work has been observed throughout the year in senior schools.

(2) JUNIOR SCHOOLS.

The work taken a year ago at classes for junior school teachers is bearing fruit. The work is, in most cases, on the lines of the Board's new Syllabus of Physical Training and very sound work is to be reported.

(3) INFANT SCHOOLS.

Despite the fact that the classes for infant school teachers have concluded but recently, signs are not wanting that the new work of the Board's recent Syllabus is being enthusiastically introduced. A fuller account of the progress made in this branch of Physical Training will be made in next year's report.

(E) THE PROVISION OF APPARATUS.

The central and the senior schools are all in possession of Swedish gymnastic apparatus of a portable nature. During the year this has, in certain cases, been supplemented in two ways:—

- (1) Additional apparatus has been made at the various handicraft centres by the boys under the guidance and supervision of the handicraft teachers. The following vaulting boxes have either been completed or are "on the stocks":—

2 boxes at the new Highfield School.

1 box for Tyldesley Girls' School made in the boys' school.

1 box for Claremont Girls' School constructed in the Boys' School.

In addition, an immediate start is to be made on a vaulting box for Palatine Central Girls' School by the boys of the brother school. Altogether, this is splendid work and the handicraft masters are to be congratulated on the results of their teaching and guidance.

- (2) Certain schools have made special efforts to raise funds by jumble sales, parties, concerts, etc., so as to purchase supplementary apparatus. Three instances of this nature are to be reported:—

Palatine Central Girls' School has bought a vaulting buck and a spring board.

Tyldesley Senior Girls' School has purchased a vaulting buck, a spring board, and a beating board.

Claremont Senior Girls' School has bought a beating board.

There is also an adequate supply of games and athletic apparatus which is added to from time to time under the wise dispensation of the Director of Education. Where the apparatus is of a type suitable for construction by the boys in the handicraft centres, this also has been generously carried out by the handicraft teachers. Such types as hurdles, jumping stands, netball stands and rounders' posts have been made in this way.

(F) GYMNASTIC CLOTHING AND SHOES.

The situation from the point of view of the girls is distinctly good. In very many cases, indeed the majority, the girls wear gym. slip blouse and shoes. In certain schools the 'gym. slip and stockings are discarded during Physical Training, allowing that freedom of action so necessary for effective exercise. This type of dress is definitely advocated for girls in their gymnastics and games.

With regard to the boys the position is not so good. Very many provide gym. shoes, especially in the senior schools where the use of apparatus demands the use of such shoes. But although coats are discarded and shirt sleeves rolled up, the boys still work in their ordinary clothes. This practice is most unhygienic and moreover entails great wear and tear on the outdoor clothes. Gym. shorts and singlets can now be purchased for a shilling or two and their use would in the long run actually effect a saving to the parents.

The argument is sometimes brought against the wearing of special gym. clothes that the time allotted to the lesson does not permit of changing. But if 50 minutes were allowed instead of 40 for each of the lessons, it would permit of 5 minutes for dressing or undressing at each end of the lesson. After all, if we expect the children to provide the clothing we must also be prepared to make a sacrifice in the form of giving slightly longer gym. lessons. In the long run, both the children and the school will gain by the change.

(G) TIME DEVOTED TO PHYSICAL TRAINING.

In general, the time allotted weekly to Physical Training in our various schools is as follows:—

(1) Central and senior schools:

2 gymnastic lessons of about 40 minutes each.

1 games period of 1 hour.

A swimming period.

This arrangement, although not generous in its allowance to the subject, meets a bare minimum requirement. Three gymnastic lessons weekly would be much more satisfactory. The extra lesson would repay itself in increased efficiency in academic subjects. Also 50 minute lessons would be better for boys to allow time for changing.

(2) Junior schools :—

4 short Physical Training periods of 20 minutes each.

1 games period.

In certain cases, a swimming period.

Five lessons weekly would be preferable.

(3) Infant schools :—

The times advocated here are :

15 minutes each morning for the primary lesson.

15 minutes each afternoon for the secondary lesson.

(H) THE POSTURE OF THE SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The importance of good bodily posture of the children cannot be over-estimated. Good posture is the very basis of a correctly conceived scheme of Physical Training. Much attention has been devoted to this subject in the Board's new syllabus.

We are definitely improving in this matter. Attention is constantly given to this matter in infant and in junior school lessons. Senior girls stand well on the whole and the senior boys are improving in their posture, thanks to the efforts of the teachers to secure this end. Many boys consider it manly to slouch. The men teachers are tackling this problem strongly.

What has been stated in previous reports must be reiterated—that good posture of the body in the children will only be secured *if we insist on it, not only in the Physical Training Lessons, but also in all other lessons and at all times—in the classroom, gymnasium, playground, and playing field.*

(J) ORGANISED GAMES.

(1) ORGANISATION AND COACHING OF GAMES.

Progress has been made both in regard to the types and varieties of games played and as to the acquisition of play technique by the children. With reference to the types and varieties of games played, the following suggestions are made :—

- (a) That the senior boys should not be restricted on the playing field to football in winter and cricket in summer. Games of the type of rugby, touch and handball in the cold weather and hard-ball rounders, baseball and stoolball for the warmer weather have very definite value for boys and should be played.
- (b) Whilst more variety is observed with the play of the senior girls, even here further types of games should be attempted. Hockey is played by two schools on definite hockey pitches in the Park. Shinty deserves more attention. Stoolball in the summer is an excellent game when played with spirit and good technique. It has been observed that in the case of two girls' schools, cricket has been attempted. This is strongly to be deprecated. Cricket is definitely not a suitable game for young, growing girls. It is too one-sided in its physical results on the body and it becomes a farce unless played on a really good pitch with full equipment. In most cases it only amounts to a poor imitation of boys' play.

As to the acquisition of technique in the elements of play, such as dodging, swerving, throwing, catching, dribbling, etc., much is done on these lines in the girls' schools. On the other hand, the boys' schools do not practise elements enough. There is still the tendency to take the boys to the football field and set them to play the full game at once. This is in line with asking a child to run before it can walk. *Ten or fifteen minutes spent each lesson with the class split up into small sections practising play elements would improve the standard of play by leaps and bounds.*

Mention must be made of the generosity of the Directors of the Blackpool Football Club who have sent weekly to the schools tickets for the use of the scholars at their matches. In this way our boys have opportunities of seeing good football.

(2) PLAYING FACILITIES (PLAYING FIELDS AND PLAYGROUNDS).

The playgrounds of the Blackpool Schools are on the whole, good, and offer facilities for play of the minor games. In the case of schools where the playground is unsuitable for play, consistent visits throughout the year are paid to the playing fields. The playgrounds are adequately marked out for these minor games and, for this purpose, Primer and White Line Marking Paint, manufactured by Lewis Berger and Company, has been found excellent.

The following is the position with regard to the various playing fields and playing spaces :—

- (1) The playing fields at Stanley Park serve a number of schools in the vicinity. The boys' schools make consistent visits to these fields both in winter and summer. Girls'

schools attend well in summer but, unfortunately in many cases, restrict play in winter to the playgrounds. On the other hand, the Catholic Schools, St. Cuthbert's, Talbot Road, and St. Kentigern's, send both boys' and girls' classes consistently throughout the year. This is very commendable practice. Mention must here be made of the excellent services rendered to the boys' games at Stanley Park by Fathers Browne and Guiry of St. Cuthbert's School and Father Keily of St. Kentigern's. These reverend gentlemen have accompanied the boys to the playing fields and have coached them throughout the year in their games.

- (2) The ground attached to Claremont School has been restricted to school use by enclosure. This is a definite move in the right direction. If now it could be levelled and turfed excellent service would be rendered to the school.
- (3) The playing field attached to the new Highfield School is adequate, as far as space is concerned. It, also, requires levelling and re-turfing in parts.
- (4) Thames Road Senior School has again had the use of one of the playing fields of the Arnold School, thanks to the generosity of Mr. Pennington.
- (5) St. John's Junior School has made good use of the playing field attached to the Church.
- (6) Bispham Junior School has consistently utilised neighbouring fields for their play. The school is anxious to obtain more effective fields, however.
- (7) The land in front of Palatine School is unsuitable as it stands for organised games of the type required for central schools.

We are indebted once again to the Parks Committee, to the Parks Superintendent and his assistants for their great help in this important side of the children's physical education.

(K) ATHLETICS AND SCHOOL SPORTS.

Extremely interesting and efficient individual school sports were conducted on the House System by all the central and senior schools. Mr. Settrington, B.Sc., the Head Teacher of the Palatine Boys' Central School makes the following interesting statement in his annual report: "Every boy who was physically fit entered for at least one event in the sports"

In addition, the following junior schools held their own sports:—

Revoe Junior Girls', Devonshire Road Junior Boys' Waterloo, Junior Girls', and Bispham Junior School.

The Devonshire Road Junior Boys organised their Sports so that all heats, as well as final events, took place on the same afternoon.

The annual combined sports of the elementary schools was held in July. An interesting feature was the mass demonstration of Swedish gymnastics with portable apparatus given by the senior and central school children under the direction of the Organiser of Physical Training.

(L) THE USE OF FILMS IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

Films have been utilised in two ways throughout the year :—

- (a) Films of Blackpool school sports and typical physical training lessons have been taken by the Organiser of Physical Training. These have a definite value both from the point of view of providing a pictorial history of our physical activities and of affording us representations of some of our strength and weaknesses in the matter.
- (b) Professional coaching films of swimming, diving and athletics have been shewn to the children and also by invitation to the teachers of the local branch of the Blackpool Teachers' Association.

(M) CORRECTIVE WORK.

Lists of pupils who require corrective exercises have been supplied periodically by the Assistant School Medical Officer. In certain cases suitable exercises have been pointed out to the teachers. It is strongly suggested, however, that a remedial exercise expert be appointed to take charge of this work. With the best will in the world, the class teachers have not the necessary knowledge to deal with this highly technical branch of the work. Only systematic exercises, frequently repeated, can be of assistance in these cases, and neither the Organiser nor the teachers have the time to devote to this particular phase of the work in addition to all their other activities.

(N) GYMNASIUM.

One class from St. Cuthbert's School and one from Talbot Road visit the gymnasium weekly to receive a lesson from Mr. Gregory on the lines of the Board's Reference Book of Gymnastics for Boys. It is hoped that arrangements may be made early in the new year also to send a class from St. Kentigern's School. In all these three cases there is no man member of the staff and it is therefore felt that weekly visits to the gymnasium are most valuable for these boys.

It would be extremely helpful if the Library Committee could see their way to add the following portable apparatus to the existing inadequate supply at the gymnasium :—

- 6 gymnastic benches, 4 gym. mats, a vaulting box, and a vaulting buck.

(O) SWIMMING.

Last year's policy of the Education Committee has been maintained during the present season. The teaching has been carried out by our own trained class teachers. Where no member of the school can teach swimming, the work has been undertaken by Mrs. Coupe and Mr. Shaw, the Bath's Coaches. In all cases, excellent work has been observed. The second feature of our policy is that we aim at teaching as many pupils to swim as possible—"the greatest good for the greatest number."

Last year it was reported that we had taught the record total of 672 pupils to swim. Usually a record is followed by a decline. Actually this year we have followed one record by another. *Our total this year is 1,014, an increase of 50% on even last year's total. The following figures are of interest:—*

1931	..	..	..	442 learners	,
1932	..	..	..	672	„
1933	..	..	..	1,014	„

The awards for the four types of swimming certificates issued by the Education Committee are:—

		This year.	Last year.
Learners' Certificates	.. ..	1014	672
Elementary	„ ..	237	221
Intermediate	„ ..	114	108
Advanced	„ ..	55	46

It is interesting to note that there is an increase of junior schools which have sent classes at the baths this year.

The teachers are to be heartily congratulated on all these wonderfully good results.

The Education Committee's trophies for swimming were gained as follows:—

Tower Shield (for the highest number of points gained by boy learners)—Claremont Senior Boys'.

Winter Gardens (for the highest number of points gained by girl learners)—Claremont Senior Girls' and Tyldesley Senior Girls'. The result in this case was a tie.

Amos Crompton Shield—Palatine Boys' Central School.

The total number of attendances at the Cocker Street Baths throughout the season has been 20,933.

In addition to the lessons at the Cocker Street Baths, the following number of swimmers visited the Open-Air Baths during the season:—

4,261 (last year, 3,025).

In addition to the increase in the number of learners, there has been a general all-round improvement in the standard of swimming, particularly on the boys side. Usually the girls swimming overshadows that of the boys both in style and general efficiency. This is not the case during the present year, however. The boys swimming is definitely better this season than that of the girls.

Each central and senior school conducted its own school gala. A junior school, Revue Junior Girls', also ran its gala. It was the first time in the swimming history of Blackpool that a gala has been held by a junior school.

In addition there were two combined schools' galas during the season :—

- (a) One held for all types of Blackpool schools in July at the Open-Air Baths under the auspices of the Baths and Education Committees.
- (b) One held in November by the teachers for the elementary schools alone at the Tower Circus. This was a wonderful success. Further details are given later in the report.

The accommodation at the Cocker Street Baths has become quite inadequate for our needs and our good results have this year been obtained in spite of adverse conditions in the form of attendance of large numbers of the public at the same time as the children receive this class instruction, mixed bathing, inability of the baths' authorities to offer us the accommodation our growth demands, etc.

It cannot be urged too strongly that additional baths be built at once to meet our needs as well as those of the general public.

I should like to express my sincere appreciation of the ever-ready help and co-operation of the Baths Superintendent and his Assistants.

(P) LIFE-SAVING.

The following excellent awards of the Royal Life-Saving Society have been gained by pupils of the Palatine Central School :—

Boys :

Intermediate Certificate	..	..	..	..	30
Bronze Medallion	..	..	..	..	16
A total of 46, as against last year's total of 28					

GIRLS :

Elementary Certificates	..	..	..	..	19
Intermediate Certificates	..	..	..	..	12
Bronze Medallions	..	..	..	..	16
Second Class Honorary Instructor's Certificate	..				1

(Q) VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

For many years the Schoos' Sports Committee has undertaken the important work of organising sports, games, and swimming during out-of-school hours. This excellent voluntary work is continued year by year most enthusiastically by the large number of teachers. The following short reports for 1933 of the Honorary Secretaries of the various sections give an idea of the scope of their activities :—

(a) SPORTS COMMITTEE (Secretary : Mr. E. J. Williams):

“ Much useful work is being done by the Blackpool teachers in the promotion of the physical development of our boys and girls. Further, the work of the Association plays no little part in the social welfare of our children both in and out of school, as is evinced by the large number of junior swimming, football, and cricket clubs which are in existence in Blackpool. These healthy forms of recreation, indulged in during leisure time are in no small measure due to the interest taken in these people during their school days.

“ In uncertain weather the Town Athletic Sports were held at the Oval, Stanley Park, on Saturday, 8th July. Every school in the town took part, and owing to the large number of entries (over 2,000) it was necessary to run off preliminary heats before the sports day. For the biggest aggregate of points championship shields were awarded, as follows :—

Junior Boys'—Claremont Junior Boys'.
 Junior Girls'—Thames Road Junior School.
 Boys under 13 years—Palatine Boys'.
 Girls under 13 years—Tyldesley Girls'.
 Boys', 13—14 year.—Palatine Boys'.
 Girls', 13—14 years—Tyldesley Girls'.
 Boys', 14—15 years—Palatine Boys'.
 Girls', 14—15 years—Claremont Senior Girls'.

“ A team of 30 boys and girls represented our schools in the County Sports at Widnes on the 17th June. For the second year in succession the girls were successful in winning the County Championship Trophy for the biggest aggregate of points in all events. The successes obtained were :—

Hurdles—1st.
 Relay—1st.
 High Jump—2nd.
 150 yards—2nd.
 100 yards—2nd.
 Long Jump—3rd.

“ Four of our girls were chosen to represent Lancashire at the National Schools Athletic Sports which were held at Southend-on-Sea on 22nd July, 1933. Out of twenty-one counties who competed, Lancashire Boys came in third, and the girls fifth.

The Lancashire Schools Athletic Sports have been held at Blackpool for three years in succession. Next year, 1934, in July, the Schools National Sports will be held on the Blackpool Cricket Ground. These sports which are the hall-mark of athletics in our schools, should provide a spectacular attraction for Blackpool. Committees have already been formed to organise this very important event, and thanks are already due to the Blackpool Corporation for a grant of £100 towards the expenses of the meeting. A subscription list will shortly be opened, and it is hoped it will receive the support it deserves. Thanks are also due to the Blackpool Cricket Club for the free use of the ground, and to our President, Mr. Councillor W. R. Duckworth, J.P., F.R.G.S., for the keen interest he takes, and the support he gives in the promotion of Sports in our schools.”

E. J. WILLIAMS,

Hon. Secretary.

(b) FOOTBALL SUB-COMMITTEE (Secretary : Mr. J. Sharp).

“ This season two leagues are being run by the Association, one before Christmas for the seniors and one after Christmas for the juniors. The Senior League has been most successful, all the games being keenly contested and excellent football has been played throughout. The Championship, having as its reward the ‘ Gazette and Herald ’ Cup, lies between Claremont and Palatine. Claremont started the season very well but have not sustained their early form while Palatine improving as the season progresses have a workmanlike team. Tyldesley have been inconsistent. This is Highfield’s first season and the team has played with a spirit that gives promise of future success.

“ In the ‘ Daily Dispatch ’ Competition, Palatine defeated Claremont 3—0 on the Bloomfield Road Ground, and once more have the chance to win the Trophy for Blackpool.

“ The Town Team has been unconvincing, the chief fault being a lack of dash and poor finish. In the Lancashire Schools’ Cup we were beaten 1—0 in a poor game at Barrow. We were drawn against North Lonsdale in the Second Round of the English Schools Shield and defeated them at Blackpool by 4—1 ; the Blackpool boys playing splendid football. In the Third Round at Blackburn, however, the team lost 3—1.

“The boys are very keen and every Saturday morning one or more pitches on the Park have been in use for matches or practices. The thanks of the Association are due to those in charge of the Park Playing Fields for their help during the season.”

J. V. J. SHARP,

Hon. Secretary.

(c) SWIMMING SUB-COMMITTEE (Secretary : Miss E. Taylor).

“Last year the usual combined gala of the elementary schools was in abeyance. This year it was felt that there was a great feeling in favour not only of reviving this useful function but also of considerably extending its activities. Accordingly the following changes were made :—

- (1) The programme of events was thoroughly overhauled and brought into line with modern ideas. Towards this end, the Organiser of Physical Training submitted a list of suitable events to the Swimming Sub-Committee. This list was accepted after discussion and slight modification.
- (2) The venue of the gala was changed from the Cocker Street Baths to the Tower Circus. It was strongly felt that the accommodation offered for spectators at Cocker Street Baths was totally inadequate for existing needs.

“The result of this change of policy completely fulfilled the Committee’s expectations. The gala was a brilliant success. There were about 1,000 entries. The number of spectators amounted to about 3,000, every possible seat in the Circus being occupied. The programme proved most interesting and acceptable to both swimmers and spectators. On the boys’ side the Palatine Central Boys’ School secured first place, whilst for the girls the Claremont Senior Girls’ School were first. Financially, there was a profit of £45 on the gala.”

E. TAYLOR,

Hon. Secretary.

(d) JUNIOR GIRLS GAMES SUB-COMMITTEE (Secretary : Miss H. Pedersen).

“At a meeting held on 23rd May, 1933, it was decided to form a new Committee—the Junior Girls’ Sports Committee. The following officials were elected :—

Chairman : Miss F. Higham (Revoc Junior Girls’).

Secretary : Miss H. Pedersen (Waterloo Junior Girls’).

Treasurer : Miss Burton (Baines’ Endowed).

“ A Rounders' League was held during the summer term, but unfortunately one or two matches could not be played so that a final tabulation of results is not possible.

“ Thames Road Junior School won all the matches they played and so were at the top of the league.

“ At a meeting held in October it was decided to have an American Ball League, preparations for which to be made immediately after Christmas, and games to be played in the Easter term. So far five schools have definitely joined this league.

“ Suggestions as regards money matters were also made but as yet the financial side of the Committee is definitely a minus quantity !”

H. M. PEDERSEN,

Hon. Secretary.

(e) WOMEN TEACHERS' DANCING CLASS (Secretary: Miss A. Ogden).

“ In April, 1933, a Dancing Class for Women Teachers was formed by the teachers themselves, with 26 enthusiastic members under the tuition of Miss Webber. Unfortunately, after several enjoyable meetings, the classes were temporarily discontinued owing first to the indisposition of Miss Webber, and later to the Education Committee's classes of Physical Training held weekly. The members are looking forward to the re-commencement of the classes early in 1934.”

A. OGDEN,

Hon. Secretary.

(R) CONCLUSION.

I should like to express my sincere appreciation of the help and support of the Education Committee, the wise guidance and leadership of the Director of Education, the inspiration and assistance of H.M. Inspectors, Miss M. Grey and Capt. S. J. Parker, and finally, the co-operation of head and assistant teachers.

HENRY J. HUSKINSON, B.Sc.,

ORGANISER OF PHYSICAL TRAINING.

